

inadvertent and obvious error, Applicants submit that claims 193-198, 200-207, 209-217, 219-225, 227-233, and 237-246 are still directed to allowable subject matter.

In the interest of putting this application in better form for appeal, Applicants have cancelled claims 73-75, 77, 78, 80-84, 87-89, 91, 92, 94-102, 104-106, 108, 109, 111-118, 121-123, 125, 126, 129-134, 136-138, 140, 141, 143-175, 184-191, and 234-236, and added new claims 247-323. These amendments not only serve to reduce significantly the number of claims under consideration, but also group the claims in a more easily examinable form.

Claims 247-295 are directed to organotin-sulfur containing stabilizers, whereas claims 296-323 are directed to organotin-halogen containing stabilizers. Claims 247-264 and 296-306 are directed to compositions containing these stabilizers. Claims 265-279 and 307-314 are directed to methods of stabilizing vinyl halide resins using compositions containing these stabilizers. Claims 280-295 and 315-323 are Jepson-type claims directed to compositions based upon these stabilizers.

For the reasons set forth in Applicants' Amendments dated February 9, 1989, April 5, 1990, and April 17, 1991, Applicants submit that, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 112, 119 & 120, the subject matter of claims 247-323 is entitled to a priority date based upon French Patent Application No. 78 24863 of August 29, 1978. Accordingly, claims 247-323 are in condition of allowance.

Nevertheless, in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants are presently collecting additional evidence to submit to the Examiner regarding their claim to priority. Applicants'

therefore respectfully request that the Examiner refrain from issuing a first Office Action in response to this Preliminary Amendment until Applicants have submitted this evidence. In the event that the Examiner must act upon this application, Applicants request that the Examiner telephone the undersigned at 202-408-4243 to indicate that an Office Action will be issuing.


CONCLUSION

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment not accounted for, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916. If an extension of time not accounted for is required for entry of this Preliminary Amendment, such extension is hereby requested, and the requisite fee also should be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW  
GARRETT & DUNNER

By

  
James B. Monroe  
Reg. No. 33,971

Date: April 20, 1992

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON  
FARABOW, GARRETT  
& DUNNER

1300 I STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
1-202-408-4000